Hospitals—115
Dispensaries—1399
Mobile—
Dispensaries—25
ESI Annexes—42

(d) and (e) The working of the ESI hospitals and dispensaries is generally satisfactory. However, there have been sporadic complaints about lack of proper medical care, shortage of medicines, inadequacy of medical equipments etc. The responsibility of providing medical care under the ESI Scheme vests with the respective State Governments, except in Delhi and NOIDA where the ESIC directly administers the medical care.

In order to ensure proper medical care for the insured persons the ESI Corporation has set up a General Purposes Sub-Committee comprising representatives of the employers, employees and Members of Parliament. This Committee visits ESI Hospitals and dispensaries in 2 to 3 States every year. The observations/recommendations of the Committee along with the comments of the Corporation are forwarded to the concerned State Governments for taking suitable remedial measures. At present there is no proposal to set up another Committee for conducting a review of the ESI Scheme.

Insurance of working children against accidents and diseases

1516. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to make it mandatory for the employer to ensure working children against accidents and diseases;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Wherever Child Labour is prohibited under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 the question of insurance against accidents and diseases does not arise and the emphasis should be on enforecement of the Act. In all other cases the provision for insurance against accident and diseases cannot be made exclusively for working children.

Exemption to Employees from New Pension Scheme

1517. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal under consideration of Government to give the employees in the higher income brackets an option not to join the pension scheme and continue with the provident fund;

(b) if so, whether the employees will be entitled to the benefits of the previous family pension scheme which is being merged with the new one ; and

(c) if so, what the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir. The proposed Employees Pension Scheme is compulsory for members of the existing Family Pension Scheme and for the employees who become members of the fund on or after 1-4-1993.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Amendment to Industrial Disputes Act

1518. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to delete Section 25B of the Industrial Disputes Act; and

(b) if so, what are details thereof ?

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government are considering to introduce a new Industrial Relations Bill; and